



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group art unit: 1793

Examiner: Vanessa T. Velasquez

In Re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Applicant(s): Tomoyuki TAKEI et al.

Serial No.: 10/594,629

Filing date: September 28, 2006

For: PINION SHAFT

Atty. ref.: AI 432NP

**INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT AND
CERTIFICATION**

May 22, 2008

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner Velasquez:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) submitted in compliance with the timing requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), i.e., after the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final Action or Notice of Allowance.

Attached is a copy of a Chinese patent document, which was first cited on March 7, 2008, in the attached foreign Office Action, issued in connection with the corresponding Chinese application No. 200580011267.X. Also attached is an English-language translation of the Office Action, from which any relevance of the document can be gleaned. The document is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

It is brought to the Examiner's attention that JP 2004-27292 and JP 2003-253395 are not being listed on the attached form PTO-1449 since these two references were already previously listed on the form PTO/SB/08a submitted with the IDS filed on September 28, 2006, with the filing of the above-identified application.

It is hereby certified that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with certification and before the mailing date of a final action or Notice of Allowance, no fee is required, and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 are deemed to be fully met as to all documents listed. Consideration of the listed document respectfully is requested.

Should any fee be required, however, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002.

Respectfully submitted,

May 22, 2008

Date

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